

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/613,206

Applicant(s)

WU ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Thomas S. Heard

1654

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10 October, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments, see page 17, filed October 24, 2005, with respect to 102(e) rejection have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1, 10, and 11 has been withdrawn.

Claims 3-9 and 12-17 are hereby rejoined.

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Jeff Hsi on December 5, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In Claim 2, and line 1, "formula I" is replaced by "Claim 1."

In Claim 2, at the end of the claims, the semicolon is replaced by a period.

In Claim 3, and line 1, "formula I" is replaced by "Claim 1."

In Claim 3, at the end of the claims, the semicolon is replaced by a period.

In Claim 4, and line 1, "formula I" is replaced by "Claim 1."

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In Claim 4, at the end of the claims, the semicolon is replaced by a period.

In Claim 5, and line 1, "formula I" is replaced by "Claim 1."

In Claim 5, at the end of the claims, the semicolon is replaced by a period.

In Claim 6, and line 1, "formula I" is replaced by "Claim 1."

In Claim 6, at the end of the claims, the semicolon is replaced by a period.

In Claim 7, and line 1, "formula I" is replaced by "Claim 1."

In Claim 7, and line 3, "L is M, where M is as previously defined;" is replaced by

" L is M, where M is:

-O-;

-S-;

-NH-;

or -NR<sup>1</sup>, where R<sup>1</sup> is defined as in Claim 1."

In Claim 7, at the end of the claims, the semicolon is replaced by a period.

In Claim 8, and line 1, "formula I" is replaced by "Claim 1."

In Claim 8, and line 3, "L is M, where M is as previously defined;" is replaced by

" L is M, where M is:

-O-;

-S-;

-NH-;

or -NR<sup>1</sup>, where R<sup>1</sup> is defined as in Claim 1."

In Claim 8, at the end of the claims, the semicolon is replaced by a period.

In Claim 9, and line 1, "formula I" is replaced by "Claim 1."

In Claim 9, and line 3, "L is M, where M is as previously defined;," is replaced by

" L is M, where M is:

-O-;

-S-;

-NH-;

or -NR<sup>1</sup>, where R<sup>1</sup> is defined as in Claim 1."

In claim 16 and line 4, "IRES" is replaced by "Internal Ribosomal Entry Site."

In claim 17, "under standard amide formation conditions" is deleted.

In claim 17, and last line, the "catalyst." is deleted and replaced with ", thereby forming the compound of formula I."

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The compound has been found free of the prior art as a result from a core structure search of Formula I. The closest prior art is that of Tsantrizos et al, US Patent 6,608,027 that encompasses part of the core structure of these macrocyclic peptides active as inhibitor

toward hepatitis C serine proteases. Tsantrizos et al, however, does not teach the functional groups instantly claimed at C-R<sup>3</sup> in '027. There is nothing in the prior art to suggest or motivate one to change the C-R<sup>3</sup> to an (A)(B)-N-N functionality instantly claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas S. Heard whose telephone number is (571) 272-2064. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bruce Campell can be reached on (571) 272-0974. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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